

## REMARKS

The claims have been amended to show additional features, which distinguish the claims over the prior art as shown in Moore.

The invention helps align the various shaped hole formers by having an alignment member which will support various hole formers securely to produce better alignment for connections. In this manner different shaped hole formers can be used to form more highly aligned connections between pipes and inverts.

As Moore shows the hole former 88 is connected to the alignment member 86, in Fig. 7, wherein the alignment of the parts is made at the junction of the rim edge of the alignment member 86 with the shoulder of hole former 88. The overlap of the rim with the shoulder is rather short. Using the arrangement as shown in Moore the hole former 88 and the alignment member 86 can be assembled such that they are misaligned which will then form a misaligned connection in the molded invert.

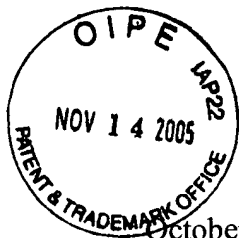
In order to prevent the misalignment between the hole former and the alignment member the applicant claims an alignment member with an outside diameter wall nesting inside of the hole former inside diameter wall which helps align the two parts. In addition the front of the alignment member engages the shoulder inside the hole former to help align the hole former on the alignment member. Further, the center of the alignment member has a central aperture for alignment with the invert mold tube to align the invert with the alignment member and therefore with the whole former. Therefore there is an improvement over the Moore reference in that the whole former is better aligned with the alignment member as the amended claims show.

It is believed that the claims as amended are allowable over the Moore reference in view of Ditcher as the combination of Moore and Ditcher do not have the solution to the alignment problem as claimed by amended claim 1.

Since claim 1 is now believed to be allowable claims 2, 4 and 5 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 3 was canceled as claim 1 as amended now includes claim 3.

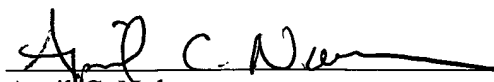
It is believed that the new features claimed in claim 1 make all of the claims allowable over the prior art. The applicant therefore asks for a notice of allowance for the amended set of claims for the reasons set forth above.



## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment (4 pp) in response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2005, a transmittal letter and a return receipt postcard, in application Serial No. 10/646,879, filed on August 21, 2003, of Julian P. Trangsrud entitled "HOLE FORMER FOR AN INVERT" is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, postage prepaid, on November 9, 2005.

Date of Signature: November 9, 2005.

  
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